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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No.: 10/021,208
Group: 1772
Examiner: Alexander S. Thomas
1st Applicant: Gary Heartsfield
Filed: December 7, 2001
Title: Mat Apparatus and Method
Atty. Ref.: 077662.000008

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING — 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any and all correspondence referenced herein, is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450, on August 14, 2003.

Aaron A. Weiss

8/14/03
Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) be entered and the documents listed on attached form(s) be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents other than any U.S. patents and patent applications are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g) and (h), this IDS is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report. The applicant believes that a fee of \$180.00 is due under §1.97(d),

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and the Commissioner for Patents is authorized to deduct said fee from Thompson & Knight LLP's deposit account No. 20-0821/077662.000008/AAW.

* * *

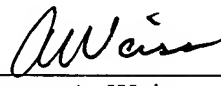
The Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Should the examiner have any questions or concerns that might be resolved by telephone communication, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned attorney at 512-469-6177.

Should any additional fees be required under Rules 1.16 – 1.21 for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Thompson & Knight, L.L.P.'s Deposit Account No. 20-0821/077662.000008/AAW.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMPSON & KNIGHT LLP

By 
Aaron A. Weiss
Reg. No. 46,163
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Application No.	10/021,208
	Filing Date	December 7, 2001
	1 st Named Inventor	Gary Heartsfield
	Art Unit	1772
	Examiner Name	Alexander S. Thomas
	Atty. Docket No.	077662.000008

U.S. Patents			
Examiner Initials*	Inventor	Patent Number	Issue Date
	Carrera, Armando	4,448,625 A	10/02/1981
	Schwertner, Gary T. et al.	5,022,844 A	01/18/1990
	Foster, John K.	4,662,851 A	07/09/1985
	Fry, Franklin Horner	3,626,143	04/02/1969
	Bowen, William Edmund	3,909,582	01/05/1973
	Brunner, Emil	3,016,317	01/09/1962

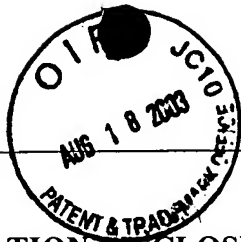
U.S. Patent Application Publications			
Examiner Initials*	Applicant	Patent Application Publication Number	Publication Date

U.S. Applications, Unpublished			
Examiner Initials*	Inventor	Application Number	Filing Date

Foreign Patents and Foreign Patent Application Publications		
Examiner Initials*	Country or Patent Office Abbr., Document Number	Publication Date
	DE 78 06 307 U	06/15/1978
	FR 2 409 057 A	06/15/1979
	FR 2 414 341 A	08/10/1979
	NL 6 800 843 A	07/22/1969
	FR 2 355 635 A	01/20/1978
	DE 22 57 144 A	06/06/1974

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Application No.	10/021,208
Filing Date	December 7, 2001
1 st Named Inventor	Gary Heartsfield
Art Unit	1772
Examiner Name	Alexander S. Thomas
Atty. Docket No.	077662.000008

Non-Patent Literature	
Examiner Initials*	Include author, title, pages, date, publisher, and place of publication

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